



S U P P O R T

MEMORANDUM IN

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OF

S.8633 – Ortt / A. 10951 - Lentol

The CSEA strongly supports this legislation.

This bill amends the Mental Hygiene law by adding a new section 13.44 to require that 85% of proceeds from the sale of property owned by the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) be reinvested into state-operated OPWDD services.

OPWDD provides comprehensive residential and community services for New Yorkers with developmental disabilities. The services offered include individualized residential programs, pathways to employment, respite services, and numerous other programs that help an individual make their lives as full and rich as possible.

Unfortunately, the waiting list to receive these types of services continues to grow. Thousands of individuals, notably clients whose current caretaker are now unable to care for them any longer, are awaiting residential services. State-operated programs, including the *Care Pilots*, offer clients real world life skills are at capacity due to their success.

This bill would help create new opportunities for those with developmental disabilities by ensuring that the proceeds from the sale of OPWDD property are reinvested into the services that will help these clients.

On behalf of more than 300,000 active and retired, public and private employees, CSEA strongly urges the passage of this proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Turner
Director